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Lucius B. Eaton



REPORTS
OF THE
SELECTMEN,
TREASURER,
OVERSEERS OF THE POOR,
AND
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF THE
TOWN OF HARRISVILLE,
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING MARCH 1st,
1874.

KEENE:

PRINTED AT THE CHESHIRE REPUBLICAN OFFICE.

1874.



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SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

The Selectmen submit the following Report of the financial affairs of the Town :

Total Valuation April, 1873,	\$356,935 00
Money tax assessed,	7,013 29
No. 1 School-house tax,	113 34
No. of Dogs, 40, tax,	43 00

LIABILITIES.

Outstanding Notes,	\$6,222 08
Unpaid Interest,	371 94
Outstanding Treasury Orders,	24 84
	<hr/>
	\$6,618 86

ASSETS.

Outstanding Taxes, 1870,	\$189 89
“ “ 1873,	869 63
State Bonds in Treasury,	3,100 00
Accrued Interest on the same,	31 00
Cash in Liquor Agent's hands,	7 50
Cash value of Liquor in Agent's hands,	106 45
Cash balance in Treasury,	409 37
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	\$4,713 84
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Balance Debt, March 1, 1874,	\$1,905 02

Balance Debt March 1, 1872,	\$2,560 63
“ “ 1, 1873,	3,134 31
Decrease of Debt from March 1, 1873 to March 1, 1874,	1,229 29

The Town have the following sums to be applied for the support of Schools the ensuing year :

Literary Fund now in the Treasury,	\$78 72
Interest on School Fund due March, 1874,	42 53
Cash balance of Dog Tax,	70 00
	<hr/>
	\$ 191 25

We would recommend to be raised by tax the ensuing year the following sums :

To pay State Tax,	\$1,008 00
To pay County Tax,	643 12
For the support of Schools,	900 00
To pay Town Debt and Interest,	1,000 00
To Defray Town Charges,	300 00
To Repair Highways,	1,000 00

Respectfully submitted,

DARIUS FARWELL,	} <i>Selectmen</i>
ZOPHAR WILLARD,	
LUTHER P. EATON,	
	<i>of</i>
	<i>Harrisville.</i>

Harrisville, Feb. 28, 1874.

TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT.

RECEIPTS.

1873.

Mar. 11, Received of Town Treasurer, State Bonds	
amounting to,	\$3100 00
Rec'd Cash amounting to,	678 50
Rec'd for tax on Dogs,	37 00
Rec'd of Aaron Smith, ag't of School fund,	42 53
Rec'd of Selectmen, money borrowed,	200 00
Rec'd of D. Farwell, money collected from	
County,	2 00
Rec'd of Selectmen, money borrowed,	800 00
Rec'd of Francis Stratton, collector of	
taxes of 1872,	200 00
Rec'd of State Treasurer, Savings Bank tax,	659 72
Rec'd of State Treasurer, literary fund,	78 72
Rec'd Interest on State Bonds,	186 00
Rec'd of County Solicitor, for fines,	50 00
Rec'd of Selectmen of Nelson for carrying	
the Mail to Munsonville,	6 50
Rec'd of M. J. Russell, for grass upon	
Island Cemetery,	5 00

1873.

March 11, Rec'd of George W. Mason, collector of

taxes,	6300 00
Rec'd of F. Stratton, Dog tax of 1872,	38 00
Rec'd of F. Stratton, taxes of 1872,	88 26
Rec'd of F. Stratton, taxes of 1872,	34 64
	<hr/>
	\$12,506 87

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid State Tax,	\$1512 00
County Tax,	677 85
On notes against the Town,*	2139 30
Darius Farwell, First Selectman,	\$73 00
Zophar Willard, Second "	38 50
Luther P. Eaton, Third "	38 50
S. L. Randall, Town Clerk,	20 00
S. L. Randall, Town Treasurer,	30 00
George W. Mason, Collector of taxes,	55 00

*Memorandum of Cash paid on notes of the Town.

Augustine Wood,	\$156 00
Milan Harris,	45 36
Bemis & Symonds,	848 18
C. C. P. Harris,	73 00
Lucy Sargent,	81 00
Ira Smith,	36 00
Moses Fairbanks,	36 00
Aaron Smith,	9 07
Darius Farwell,	6 00
Lucy B. Richardson,	9 60
Charles Brooks,	839 09
	<hr/>
	\$2,139 30

Paid Darius Farwell, Overseer of Poor,	10 50
Amos Holbrook, Sup. School Committee,	30 00
M. J. Russell, Police Officer,	5 00
F. Stratton, services as Sexton,	35 50
F. Stratton, services as Collector, 1872,	5 00
C. C. P. Harris, services as Auditor,	3 00
	<hr/>
	\$344 00

SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

Paid District No. 1,	\$355 33
" No. 2,	245 30
" No. 3,	170 44
" No. 4,	153 25
" No. 5,	167 01
" No. 6, Dublin,	43 51
" No. 3, Nelson,	7 56
" No. 5, Nelson,	4 61
	<hr/>
	\$1147 01

Paid School-house tax in District No. 1,	\$110 00
Provisions for Sewall A. Seaver,	\$16 40
Towards the Support of Eliza Smith,	32 88
Medical attendance to S. A. Seaver,	17 50
For Support of Samuel Bryant and wife to March 1873,	31 75
For Provisions for Sewall A. Seaver,	29 64
To Darius Farwell, an acct. Pauper Bill,	41 20
Towards moving Eliza Smith,	1 75
Towards Boarding Eliza Smith,	54 84
	<hr/>
	\$225 96

BREAKING ROADS—1872-3.

Paid Luther P. Eaton,	\$6 08
Judson A. Blodgett,	2 90
Austin E. Chamberlain,	48 70
Bela Morse,	35 60
Jason Phelps,	83 00
George Wood,	4 00
George W. Mason,	2 00
John C. Barry,	31 80
Lyman Russell,	71 10
Darius Farwell,	17 15
Corban C. Farwell,	9 80
Charles C. Seaver,	41 20
William Lakin,	43 03
Sherman Derby,	8 80
Luther P. Eaton,	47 26
Charles H. Nye,	23 68
F. & A. Mason,	19 90
J. F. Mason,	5 20
Nelson Yardley,	7 60
Chauncy Barker,	24 45
Orlando Fogg,	28 63
Benjamin Willard,	10 80
George W. Seaver,	12 00
	<hr/>
	\$584 68

REPAIRING HIGHWAYS.

Paid Gilman Gilchrist,	\$3 00
Reuel Brigham,	7 65
Charles H. Nye,	66 50
Corban C. Farwell,	29 55
Henry A. Adams,	8 00
Lyman Russell,	35 00
J. F. and J. A. Mason,	60 00
Lyman Russell,	25 00
Lyman Parker Estate,	15 53
Gilman Gilchrist,	6 46
Milan Parker,	1 00
Corban C. Farwell,	34 90
Henry A. Adams,	29 78
George Wood,	25 20
Joseph Eaves,	17 41
Lyman Russell,	10 65
Charles H. Nye,	109 00
Joel F. Mason,	35 03
Darius Farwell,	3 82
Gilman Kendall,	16 75
George M. Tarbox,	24 54
Cheshire Mills, highway receipts,	7 00
Nelson Yardley, highway receipts,	2 68
Luke Tarbox, highway receipts,	3 93
George W. Barker,	30 00
W. W. Seaver,	19 19
George W. Mason, tax receipts,	122 03
George P. & M. L. Parker, tax receipts,	42
	<hr/>
	\$750 02
Paid A. Chamberlain, Labor in front of Peter Fish's house,	\$46 96
A. Chamberlain, Labor in front of John McWil- liams' house,	22 07
	<hr/>
	\$69 03

PLANK &c., FOR BRIDGES.

Paid Lyman Russell, stringers for bridge,	\$3 60
Corban C. Farwell, plank for bridge,	4 27
Orlando Fogg, plank for bridge,	2 50
Joel F. Mason, plank for bridge,	9 64
Gilman Kendall, plank for bridge,	5 40
Milan Harris, plank for bridge,	1 92
	<hr/>
	\$27 33

EXPENSES OF ISLAND CEMETERY.

Paid Willard & Farwell, for plank and stakes in 1872,	\$5 00
C. C. P. Harris, as appropriated,	1000 00
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	\$1005 00
Aaron Smith, appropriation for Cemetery at Pottersville,	\$121 46

MISCELLANEOUS.

Paid Darius Farwell, pd. for Stationery,	\$3 75
Luther P. Eaton, Damages by Dogs,	8 00
D. Farwell, refunded to County,	50
*S. D. Bemis, pd. for Counsel and Blanks,	1 85
Noah W. Hardy, Watering-trough,	3 00
Francis Stratton, for services as Sexton to March 14, 1873,	41 00
Francis Stratton, for working out non-resident taxes in 1871-2,	4 41
Jairus Collins, for Bier,	5 70
Francis Stratton, carrying Mail to Munsonville 3 times,	13 00
H. A. Adams, for services as Sexton,	3 50
Henry S. Davis, for liquors purchased for the town,	113 95
D. Farwell, cash pd. for stationery,	83

Paid Luther P. Eaton, cash pd. for Sexton's service	
for R. Brigham,	4 00
William H. Jones, use of Eagle Hall,	30 00
George W. Mason, abatement of taxes,	12 58
S. L. Randall, expenses to Keene,	2 00
S. L. Randall, pd. for stationery and stamps,	1 15
F. Stratton, abatement taxes, 1872,	34 64
	<hr/>
	\$283 86
	<hr/>
	\$8997 50
 Total Receipts,	 \$12,506 87
Total Disbursements,	8,997 50
	<hr/>
Balance in Treasury-Bonds,	\$3100 00
Balance in Cash,	409 37
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	\$3509 37

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. RANDALL, *Town Treasurer.*

HARRISVILLE, March 3, 1874.

This certifies that I have examined the above account, and find it to be correctly cast, and properly vouched.

CHARLES C. P. HARRIS, *Auditor.*

R E P O R T

OF THE OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

— — — — —

The Overseers of the Poor submit the following Report :

1873.	RECEIPTS.	
April 28, Received of County Treasurer,		\$39 00
April 28, Rec'd of Town Treasurer,		16 40
Oct. 28, Rec'd of County Treasurer,		54 72
Dec. 30, Rec'd of Town Treasurer,		29 64
1874.		
Feb. 20 Rec'd of Town Treasurer,		41 20
		\$180 96

1873.	DISBURSEMENTS.	
April 28, Paid Mary Ann Yardley, for boarding and clothing Martha Cobb,		- \$37 50
April 28, pd. Town Treasurer,		1 50
April 28, pd. H. A. Spofford, for goods for S. A. Seaver,	14 99	

April 28, pd. Collins & Blodgett, for Meal for S. A.	
Seaver,	1 41
Oct. 22, pd. Levi E. Priest, for keeping transient Paupers,	2 00
Oct. 25, pd. Luther P. Eaton, for assisting Gideon Riley,	15 50
Oct. 29, pd. Mary Ann Yardley, for board and clothing	
Martha Cobb, to Oct. 14, 1873,	37 72
Dec. 19, pd. R. Nims, agt., for Store goods for S. A.	
Seaver,	8 54
Dec. 22, pd. Corban C. Farwell, for Beef for Sewell	
A. Seaver,	9 20
Dec. 30, pd. Zophar Willard, for Barrel of Flour for	
S. A. Seaver.	10 40
Dec. 30, pd. Darius Farwell, for Rye Meal for S. A.	
Seaver,	1 00
1874.	
Jan. 3, pd. Collins & Blodgett, for Corn Meal for	
S. A. Seaver,	95
Feb. 13, pd. Darius Farwell, for Butter for S. A.	
Seaver,	2 10
Feb. 17, pd. Overseers of the Poor of Nelson, Harris-	
ville's portion of the support of Samuel	
Bryant and wife,	38 15
	<hr/>
	\$180 96

Respectfully submitted,

DARIUS FARWELL,	} Overseers of the Poor of Harrisville.
ZOPHAR WILLARD,	
LUTHER P. EATON,	

Harrisville, Feb. 20, 1874.

HARRISVILLE, Feb. 28, 1874.

This certifies that I have examined the within Account of the Overseers of the Poor and find the same to be correctly cast and properly vouched. The same is *Allowed*.

CHARLES C. P. HARRIS, Auditor.

R E P O R T
OF THE
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF HARRISVILLE,
MARCH, 1874.

The past year has been one of more than usual prosperity in the Public Schools of this town, though in a few instances, suffering from obstacles and hindrances which ought not to exist. It will be our purpose to call your attention to some of these, as we speak of the several schools.

DISTRICT No. 1.—This district is obliged to support two schools of more than 40 scholars each, a Primary, and a Grammar School. The Primary class was taught by the same teacher, through the year. This was her first experience in teaching, and a very full school, many of the scholars attending school for the first time. During the first term, 5 cases of resort to corporal punishment,

against 2 the second term, indicate the benefits of a limited experience in the management and discipline of such a school, against none at all. But notwithstanding these disadvantages, the young teacher, by earnest effort and hard work, reached a good degree of success.

THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

was taught during the year by an experienced teacher, who had previously met with good success in this school. The continuance of a successful teacher in the same school from term to term, is a course we have always recommended. This school was a very successful one, and a credit to both teacher and scholars. The attendance was excellent, the register showing 13 scholars the first term, and 9 the second, who were neither absent or tardy $\frac{1}{2}$ day during the term. In the winter, with a dozen scholars during the term sick with mumps, the attendance was 97 per cent., and but 12 tardy marks on the register. *Every scholar* in this school had a copy book, and of such kind and No. as the Committee recommended, and the improvement and uniformity in writing was such as is seldom reached in the Common School.

DISTRICT No. 2.—This school had three terms of 8, 8 and 9 weeks respectively.

The Summer school was very irregular in attendance, being but 84 per cent., with 30 instances of tardiness, and 18 of dismissal before the close of the school; and there was a corresponding lack of interest and progress in studies, especially among the older scholars.

The Fall term showed at the close, a much better progress in the different branches taught, with a still greater falling off in attendance, it being but 79 per cent. with 21 cases of dismissal before the close of the school. More whispering and communicating among the scholars was noticed than ever before in this usually quiet school. The Schoolhouse in this District, stands in a very exposed

position, and during the Winter term was so out of repair as to render it not only uncomfortable, but positively dangerous to the life and health of the scholars. Something should be done by the district to remedy this, before another winter; either by thorough specific repairs, or building anew. The school was very regular in attendance during the first five weeks of the term. The school showed a good improvement in studies and scholarly deportment, by the nearly three-fifths (23-37) of the scholars who attended during the whole term.

DISTRICT No. 3.—The attendance in this school was very good throughout the year. In the Summer term, there was a very commendable progress made in the studies, and evidence of thorough teaching; and had the practice of whispering—so prevalent in this school—been corrected with its attendant evils, this would have stood high as a successful school. The Winter term was taught by an experienced teacher, who is given to thorough and systematic methods in her instructions and labors; and the readiness with which the school adopted her suggestions, helped to make this a very pleasant and profitable term.

DISTRICT No. 4.—The Summer term, taught by a former teacher of the same school, showed the same good results, as have uniformly been seen in several previous terms. The attendance in the Winter was very irregular. Of the 10 scholars, not one was there every day, and 32 cases of tardiness, and 20 of dismissal, stand on the register. At the close, the school fell below its hitherto high standard of promptness and thoroughness at recitations.

DISTRICT No. 5.—The Summer term was well managed and thoroughly taught, and the Winter school was even more successful, in the work done in the schoolroom, by both teacher and scholars. The introduction, by both teachers, of singing as an exercise in the school, was

attended with very good results—a custom which your Committee would like to see followed in all our schools, when practicable. With less than 1-10th of all the scholars in our schools, this school for the winter, has nearly 1-3d of all the tardy marks upon the registers, amounting to 95 in one term with 16 scholars. This fault and hindrance to the school, must be charged mainly to the parents.

Annexed, and forming a part of this report, is a tabular statement of the schools, showing for each term in the several Districts, the name of the teacher, wages paid per month including board, length of the term in weeks, the whole number of scholars, the number not absent or tardy 1-2 day, and the number in each of the branches taught in the school, except reading and spelling which embraces all the scholars in each school.

The change made in the Geography used, (Guyot's for Warren's) has been well received, and the full co-operation of the parents in the change, has made the labor of the Committee in their introduction, light and pleasant. The increased interest taken in this important branch of school education, is shown by the fact, that the number engaged in this study has increased this year, 50 per cent.

The Readers, which have been in use past the memory of the oldest scholars, are so much worn, and the schools so poorly supplied, that the introduction of a much needed new book, at introduction prices, would really cost less than to furnish the schools with good copies of the book now in use. No other change in text books is, at present, recommended. The amount of money to be raised for the support of the schools, and the method of appropriating it among the several schools, is a matter wholly in the hands of the voters. But we will give some facts coming under our knowledge, which may aid the town in deter-

mining these questions. We have in town five School Districts, and six schools. A part also, of District No. 6 of Dublin, lies rather within this town, forming a union District.

Our 6 schools have been kept an average of 21 1-5 weeks the past year, ranging from 19 to 25 weeks. Thus, most of our children have no priveleges of school for more than 30 weeks in the year. Of the money paid to teachers, the average proportion to each scholar in the several districts, is shown in the following table:

No. of District.	Term of School.	Whole No. of Scholars.	Amount Paid Teachers.	Scholars' average for each term.	Average for the Year.
1	S. (Prim.)	44	\$70 00	\$1 59	\$3 18
1	W. (Pr.)	49	75 00	1 59	
1	S. (G.)	28	81 00	2 90	5 34
1	W. (G.)	41	100 00	2 44	
2	Summer.	39	58 00	1 49	5 86
2	Fall.	33	64 00	1 94	
2	Winter.	37	90 00	2 43	9 48
3	Summer.	12	52 00	4 33	
3	Winter.	16	82 50	5 15	15 66
4	Summer.	9	60 00	6 66	
4	Winter.	10	90 00	9 00	9 37
5	Summer.	15	45 00	3 00	
5	Winter.	16	102 00	6 37	

In this review of the several schools, and the results of the past school year, we have regarded it our duty to call your attention to the *few* things that point to a chance for

improvement and greater progress in the future, rather than the *many*, which, in all our schools would show a much more flattering view of past results, and future prospects. Their present standing is full of encouragement, and commendable to all the schools. Nor do we believe that there was ever a time when an advance in our appropriations and efforts for the good of our schools, seemed to promise so large returns.

Respectfully submitted by

AMOS HOLBROOK,

Superintending School Committee.

Harrisville, March 10, 1874.

T A B L E .

DISTRICT.	TERM.	TEACHERS.	Wages including Board.	Length of school in wks.	Whole No. of Scholars.	Not absent one-half day.	No. in Penmanship.	Arithmetic.	Grammar.	Geography.	Composition.	History.	B. Keeping.	Philosophy.	Algebra.
I. Prim.	Summer.	A. M. Nesmith.	\$28	10	44	12	16	21	10						
I. Prim.	Winter.	A. M. Nesmith.	30	10	49	9	18	25	8						
I. Gram.	Summer.	F. H. Nesmith.	36	9	28	17	28	24	14	18					
I. Gram.	Winter.	F. H. Nesmith.	40	10	41	9	41	40	19	27					
II.	Summer.	N. M. Eaton.	29	8	39	6	18	30	16	13					
II.	Fall.	C. E. Wood.	32	8	33	4	14	28	9	15	9				
II.	Winter.	M. F. Harding.	40	9	37	1	18	36	17	16					
III.	Summer.	C. E. Wood.	26	8	12	5	5	9	4	5					
III.	Winter.	C. A. Fish.	30	11	16	4	11	15	10	8					
IV.	Summer.	E. I. Tarbox.	24	10	9	2	5	6	2	2	4				
IV.	Winter.	E. E. Gleason.	30	12	10		10	10	2	3	3				
V.	Summer.	M. E. Coolidge.	20	9	15	1	9	12	7	6					
V.	Winter.	R. V. Powers.	34	12	16	1	13	14	9	8	8				





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